UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK		
X : :		
Plaintiff,		
:		
:		
Defendant. :		

USDC SDNY DOCUMENT ELECTRONIC DOC #:_	CALLY FILED
DATE FILED:_	7/21/2025

1:24 CIV 09793 (AT) (KHP)

**STIPULATION AND PROTECTIVE ORDER** 

WHEREAS, the Parties having agreed to the following terms of confidentiality, and the Court having found that good cause exists for the issuance of an appropriately tailored confidentiality order pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, it is hereby

ORDERED that the following restrictions and procedures shall apply to the information and documents exchanged by the parties in connection with the pre-trial phase of this action:

- 1. Any party may designate any document or information, in whole or in part, as confidential if the party or its counsel determines, in good faith, that such designation is necessary to protect the interests of the party in information that is proprietary, a trade secret or otherwise sensitive non-public information. Information and documents designated by a party as confidential will be stamped "CONFIDENTIAL."
- 2. The Confidential Information disclosed will be held and used by the person receiving such information solely for use in connection with the action.
- 3. In the event a party challenges another party's designation of confidentiality, the parties shall make a good faith effort to resolve the dispute, and in the absence of a resolution, the challenging party may seek resolution by the Court. Nothing in this Protective Order constitutes an admission by any party that Confidential Information disclosed in this case is relevant or admissible. Each party reserves the right to object to the use or admissibility of the Confidential Information.
- 4. All documents designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" shall not be disclosed to any person, except:
  - a. The requesting party and counsel, including in-house counsel;

- b. Employees of such counsel assigned to and necessary to assist in the litigation;
- c. Consultants or experts assisting in the prosecution or defense of the matter, to the extent deemed necessary by either party or its counsel; and
- d. The Court (including the mediator, or other person having access to any Confidential Information by virtue of his or her position with the Court).
- 5. Prior to disclosing or displaying the Confidential Information to any person, the party or its counsel must:
  - a. Inform the person of the confidential nature of the information or documents;
  - b. Inform the person that this Court has enjoined the use of the information or documents by him/her for any purpose other than this litigation and has enjoined the disclosure of the information or documents to any other person; and
  - c. Require each such person to sign an agreement to be bound by this Order in the form attached hereto.
- 6. The disclosure of a document or information without designating it as "confidential" shall not constitute a waiver of the right to designate such document or information as Confidential Information. If so designated, the document or information shall thenceforth be treated as Confidential Information subject to all the terms of this Stipulation and Order.
- 7. Any Personally Identifying Information ("PII") (e.g., social security numbers, financial account numbers, passwords, and information that may be used for identity theft) exchanged in discovery shall be maintained by the receiving party in a manner that is secure and confidential and shared only with authorized individuals in a secure manner. The producing party may specify the minimal level of protection expected in the storage and transfer of its information. In the event the party who received PII experiences a data breach, it shall immediately notify the producing party of same and cooperate with the producing party to address and remedy the breach. Nothing herein shall preclude the producing party from asserting legal claims or constitute a waiver of legal rights and defenses in the event of litigation arising out of the receiving party's failure to appropriately protect PII from unauthorized disclosure.
- 8. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502, the production of privileged or work- product protected documents or communications, electronically stored information ("ESI") or information, whether inadvertent or otherwise, shall not constitute a waiver of the privilege or protection from discovery in this case or in any other federal or state proceeding. This Order shall be interpreted to provide the maximum protection allowed by Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d), which states that "the privilege or protection is not waived by disclosure connected

with the litigation pending before the court" and is "also not a waiver in any other federal or state proceeding." Nothing contained herein is intended to or shall serve to limit a party's right to conduct a review of documents, ESI or information (including metadata) for relevance, responsiveness and/or segregation of privileged and/or protected information before production.

- 9. Notwithstanding the designation of information as "confidential" in discovery, there is no presumption that such information shall be filed with the Court under seal. The parties shall follow the Court's procedures with respect to filing under seal. (These rules are available at:
  - https://www.nysd.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/practice\_documents/KHP%20 Parker%20Individual%20Practices%20in%20Civil%20Cases%20-%202.2025 0.pdf;

https://www.nysd.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/practice documents/AT%20T orres%20Individual%20Practices%20in%20Civil%20Cases%20-%202.14.2025%20%28ADOPTED%29.pdf)). For avoidance of doubt, the Parties

agree and acknowledge that a party may not file a document designated as "confidential" by the other party or a third party on the public docket unless (i) the designating party has agreed in writing, or (ii) so ordered by the Court. Recognizing Plaintiff's pro se status, if Plaintiff has any questions about whether a document should be filed under seal, and/or the Court's procedures for how to file under seal, he may contact Defendant's counsel, who will assist him in preparing the filing under seal pursuant to the Court's procedures.

- 10. At the conclusion of litigation, Confidential Information and any copies thereof, except for data or information automatically retained on back-end servers not generally accessible to the user shall be promptly (and in no event later than 30 days after entry of final judgment no longer subject to further appeal) returned to the producing party or certified as destroyed, except that the parties' counsel shall be permitted to retain their working files on the condition that those files will remain protected.
- 11. Nothing herein shall preclude the parties from disclosing material designated to be Confidential Information if otherwise required by law or pursuant to a valid subpoena.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 21, 2025

New York, New York

KATHARINE H. PARKER

United States Magistrate Judge

Kathaine H Parker